in this direction is; which include — Indian Industry Programme for Energy Conservation (IIPEC), Demand Side Management (DSM), Standards & Labelling Programme, Energy Efficiency in Buildings, Delivery Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency Services, Energy Conservation Building Codes, Certification of Energy Managers and Accreditation of Energy Auditors, Development of Energy Performance Codes, National Energy Conservation Awards, National Campaign on Energy Conservation and Painting Competition on Energy Conservation for School Children.

(c) and (d) The tariff for electricity for different consumer categories are determined by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions.

Power plants set up by foreign companies

1438. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from foreign countries for setting up power plants in various parts of our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any final decision in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Generation has been delicensed under the Electricity Act, 2003. Proposal of foreign direct investment in respect of power generation (other than nuclear power plants), transmission, distribution projects and power trading are on the RBI automatic approval route and no longer require the prior approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) or the Ministry of Power.

Issues raised by CERC

1439. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) asked

the Ministry that one-size-fits-all approach to power subsidy is not viable and it should be left to each State's electricity regulator and the forum of regulators should be allowed to evolve a consensus on the issue;

(b) whether the Commission is also against Government's view of doing away with advance against depreciation for meeting loan repayment; and

(c) if so, the details of other issues raised by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and to what extent the Ministry has agreed to their directives?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Electricity Act, 2003 requires Central Government to prepare the National Electricity Policy and Tariff Policy in consultation with the State Governments and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) is required to advise the Central Government regarding these policies. CERC communicated their advice to Ministry of Power regarding these Policies indicated their views on various issues, including the following

(i) Advance against depreciation should be permitted.

(ii) Instead of laying down a uniform methodology for computation of cross-subsidy surcharge, the matter should be left to the State Eelctricity Regulatory Commissions to determine after discussions in the Forum of Regulators.

Most of the suggestions given by CERC for Tariff Policy and National Electricity Policy were agreed to and incorporated in the Policies. These Policies were finalised after considering views of the CERC, CEA the State Governments and other stake-holders.

Electrification of villages in Uttaranchal

1440. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttaranchal deprived of the facilities of electricity as on date;

(b) the number of villages to be targeted to be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification plan and the target achieved so far in this regard;